United Nations

Daily Highlights

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MONDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Security-Council extends UNOMUR mandate for final three months; military observers to be phased out gradually; stresses need for strict monitoring of arms embargo to Rwanda and importance of continued cooperation between UNOMUR and Ugandan authorities.

+ Secretary-General recommends mandate of United Nations officials in Tajikistan be extended till end of September; will extend mandate of Special Envoy there; notes progress in political dialogue between Tajik parties.

+ Prime Minister designate of Rwanda says implementation of Arusha Peace Agreement only way to solve crisis in his country; warns hostilities there could spread to region.

+ Fighting breaks out in Bosnia and Herzegovina over weekend in violation of one month cease-fire agreement.

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The Security-Council today extended the mandate of the United Nations Observer Mission Uganda-Rwanda (UNOMUR) until 21 September when it will be closed down. During that period the number of military observers will be gradually reduced. In unanimously adopting resolution 928 (1994), the Council welcomed the extension in May of UNOMUR's observation and monitoring activities along the entire Ugandan-Rwanda border. It said the arms flow into Rwanda was one of the major concerns in the cease-fire talks currently being held under the auspices of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR). Expressing its appreciation to the Ugandan Government for its support of UNOMUR, the Council stressed the need for the strict observance and monitoring of the arms embargo to Rwanda and the importance of continued cooperation between UNOMUR and the Ugandan authorities.

In his report to the Council, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Boutros Ghali noted the success of UNOMUR's mandate and said clandestine cross-border traffic between Rwanda and Uganda had decreased. The Mission had not detected significant arms shipments or the movement of armed personnel despite the

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dramatic increase in hostilities in Rwanda since April. UNOMUR was established by the Security Council last year to verify that no military assistance reached Rwanda across the Ugandan border.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has recommended that the mandate of a small group of United Nations Observer officials in Tajikistan be extended until the end of September. In a report to the Security Council dated 16 June, the Secretary-General noted the progress made in establishing a political dialogue between the Tajik parties and said he would also extend the mandate of his Special Envoy, Ramiro Piriz-Ballon, for the same period. The officials would support the activities of the Special Envoy, assess the military and security situation in the country, and facilitate humanitarian assistance. They would also coordinate the mission of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) in Tajikistan, and monitor the human rights situation there.

The Secretary-General said recent efforts by Mr. Priz-Ballon in Tehran and the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Marrack Goulding, in Dushanbe had cleared the way for the second round of inter-Tajik talks, scheduled for 18 June. The talks were aimed at achieving an agreement on the cessation of hostilities, which would confirm that a viable national reconciliation process was underway. In that case, the Secretary-General said he would recommed that the Security Council respond positively to any reasonable request by the Tajik parties for international monitoring mechanisms.

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Military observers with the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) have reported fighting broke out in Bosnia-Herzegovina, over the weekend. There were heavy exchanges of fire along a wide front in north-eastern Bosnia, according to United Nations radio reports in Zagreb. The exchanges continued in the Posavina Corridor area, with heavy fighting on Saturday and slightly less activity yesterday. The weapons used ranged from small arms to heavy artillery.

Both sides seemed to fire at each other, however there were no indications of infantry attacks, according to an UNPROFOR spokesman. The exchange in north-east Bosnia-Herzegovina was a clear violation of the one month cease-fire agreement, negotiated in Geneva by the Secretary-General's Special Representative Yasushi Akashi.

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The Prime Minister designate of the broad-based Rwandan government, Faustine Twagiramungu, today called for the impelemtation of the Arusha Peace Agreement in his country. That agreement was negotiated last August by the interim Government and all political parties in Rwanda. Mr. Twagiramungu told correspondents at Headquarters that the Agreement contained the most important

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elements needed for peace in Rwanda. He said it was very unfortunate that delaying manoeuvres and press manipulation had been used by the Government which was currently in place and by extremists in the army.

Mr. Twagiramungu said that the Arusha agreements had not been implemented because most of the people in authority did not want power sharing or democracy in Rwanda. The only way to end the crisis there was to observe relevant United Nations resolutions, not through unilateral means or by bringing in other countries who had been previously involved in the conflict. He stressed that such actions could complicate the current situation in his country and there was a danger hostilities could lead to a regional conflict.

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